

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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13

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 COME-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 /039 W

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R 181026 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4336

UNCLAS VALLETTA 0999

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, MT

SUBJECT: MALTA DRYDOCKS REQUEST FOR ABS OFFICE

FOR EB/ TT/ MA

1. GENERAL MANAGER OF MALTA DRYDOCKS CORPORATION, MR. JOHN CALLEJA, HAS REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN THE REASSIGNMENT OF A RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING.

2. ABS MAINTAINED A REP IN MALTA UNTIL DRYDOCKS STRIKES IN 1970/71 REDUCED THE NUMBER OF SHIPS OF ABS CLASSIFICATION COMING TO MALTA FOR REPAIRS.

3. CALLEJA SAID THAT MDC BUSINESS HAS PICKED UP CONSIDERABLY AND APPROXIMATELY TWENTY- FIVE PERCENT OF THE 250 SHIPS IN HANDLED LAST YEAR WERE ABS CLASSIFIED. MOST RECENT EXAMPLE WAS TANKER AGIP GENOA WHICH SUFFERED FIRE DAMAGE OFF MALTA AND NOW HERE FOR REPAIRS.

4. SINCE DAPRTURE ABS REP, MALTA HAS BEEN SERVED BY ABS PERSONNEL BASED IN ITALY. CALLEJA BELIEVE THAT NUMBER OF ABS SHIPS COMING MALTA NOW WARRANTS THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL ABS OFFICE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: ALTHOUGH CALLEJA IS CORRESPONDING DIRECTLY WITH ABS, WOULD APPREICATE TT/ MA INFORMING ABS OF OUR INTEREST, AND REPORT OF THEIR INTENTIONS. GETZ

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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